**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑23‑260 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION AND USE OF WALK‑THROUGH METAL DETECTORS AND OTHER METAL DETECTORS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND HIGH SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ATHLETIC VENUES IN THIS STATE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PROMULGATE RELATED REGULATIONS; AND TO MAKE THESE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE JULY 1, 2023.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 2, Chapter 23, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑23‑260. Walk‑through metal detector security systems must be installed in the public entrances to all public elementary school, middle school, and high school buildings in the State, including athletic venues. All persons entering such buildings shall be screened through the metal detectors when entering the buildings. During the time needed to procure and install such walkthrough metal detectors, schools shall procure and use handheld metal detectors. The State Department of Education shall promulgate regulations regarding the type of equipment, its placement, and other matters necessary to implement the provisions of this section.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2023.

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